



# Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

## TENNESSEE WHEAT HARVEST EARLY WITH EXCELLENT YIELDS

**NASHVILLE, June 12, 2012** – Tennessee wheat growers in 2012 experienced an exceptionally dry and very warm spring which paved the way for the earliest harvest in over forty years. Harvest was a full two weeks ahead of the normal pace. Tennessee's winter wheat production is projected to total 22.7 million bushels, up 6 percent from a year ago according to a June 1 survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. The state's average yield is an estimated 63.0 bushels per acre, the third highest yield ever registered and 6 bushels shy of last year's record. Tennessee farmers seeded 440,000 acres last fall, up 5 percent from the previous year. Wheat for harvest as grain totaled 360,000 acres, 50,000 more than a year ago. The remaining 80,000 acres were used as a cover crop, abandoned, or harvested for hay or silage.

**United States:** Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.68 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the May 1 forecast but 13 percent above 2011. Based on June 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 47.3 bushels per acre, down 0.3 bushel from last month but 1.1 bushels more than last year. Expected area for harvest as grain or seed totals 35.6 million acres, unchanged from May 1.

**Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., June 1, 2012 with Comparisons<sup>1</sup>**

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	520	480	58.0	56.0	30,160	26,880
Georgia	200	200	55.0	47.0	11,000	9,400
Kentucky	440	450	70.0	62.0	30,800	27,900
Mississippi	335	450	64.0	56.0	21,440	25,200
Missouri	680	700	50.0	55.0	34,000	38,500
North Carolina	610	750	68.0	60.0	41,480	45,000
<b>TENNESSEE</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>21,390</b>	<b>22,680</b>
Virginia	250	290	71.0	65.0	17,750	18,850
United States	32,314	35,580	46.2	47.3	1,493,677	1,683,667

<sup>1</sup> 2012 forecast, 2011 final.